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01291 Los Angeles
World Affairs
Council

Los Angeles

World Affairs Council

Twentieth Anniversary



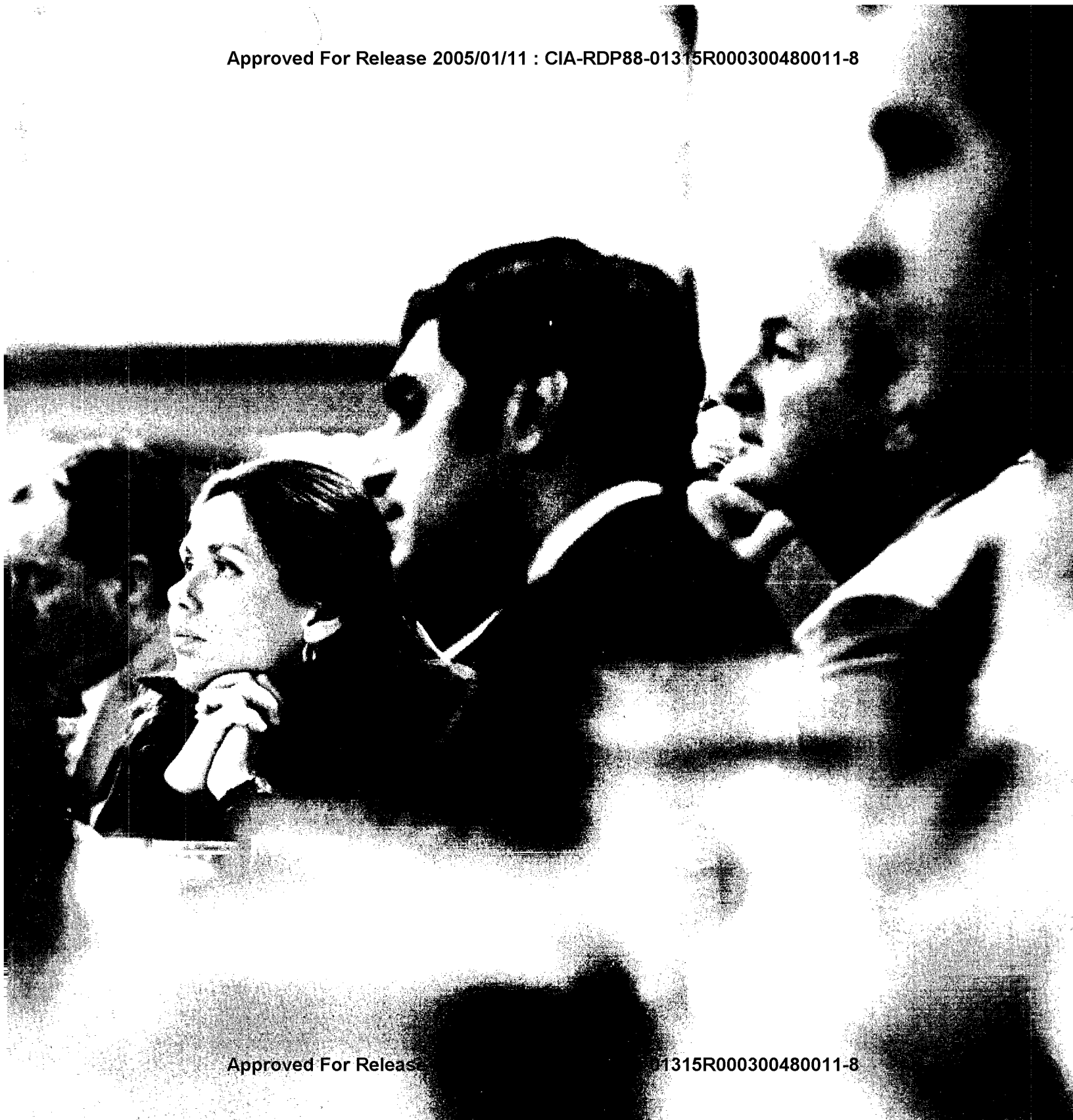
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*In a democracy,
agreement is not essential;
participation is.*

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IT IS TRUE THAT PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING of the significance of world events is mandatory in a land that is free. Since the establishment of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council in 1953, the planet has been embroiled in a whirling maelstrom of tumultuous events. This recent history and its effect on all peoples of the world demand that a nation's leaders act with cool heads and firm hands.

It is equally imperative that its citizenry listen to and question those empowered to make decisions affecting them. It makes no difference whether the philosophy expressed by a given speaker is alien, despotic, or democratic. The criteria should be the individual's power to affect the lives of great numbers of people or his knowledge or demonstrated expertise in a particular discipline of international affairs.

The World Affairs Council movement had its genesis shortly after World War I when councils were formed in Chicago and Cleveland, but the real impetus came after World War II. Today, there are 50 world affairs councils located in more than three-fourths of the major cities of the United States. The majority of them were originally branches of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association or, like Los Angeles, were assisted in their organization through the efforts of the Association.

Influential and highly respected individuals played key roles in the establishment of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council. As the Korean War came to a close, Paul Hoffman, Preston Hotchkis, John Alex McCone, and Mrs. Frank Pellissier, Jr., felt that Los Angeles would be an ideal city for such a project. At their first meeting, the course of the fledgling Council was duly charted:

"There is a present necessity that adequate information be brought to the American public so that intelligent decisions regarding United States foreign policy could be made..." That quote, paraphrased from the official minutes of the first meeting of the Board of Directors, marked the beginning of a non-partisan forum in which all possible points of view could be heard.

The founders insisted that the Council be independent, with no ties to other organizations that might have preconceptions of their own. This has been reflected in the membership of the Board of Directors from the beginning. The men and women who serve represent a cross-section of the educational, business, religious, labor, political, and civic leaders of Los Angeles.

National leadership quickly became synonymous with Council participation. Paul Hoffman, who had previously headed the Marshall Plan, later became administrator of the United Nations Development Program; John McCone served as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and also as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Preston Hotchkis was appointed United States Representative to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. A later President of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council, Roy L. Ash, was appointed Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the administration of President Nixon.

On November 20, 1953, the opening address was delivered by the Honorable Sherman Adams, then Executive Assistant to President Eisenhower. The quality and thrust of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council became clear during the next year when such distinguished citizens as Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Henry Cabot Lodge, United Nations' Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold, and Celal Bayar, the President of Turkey, all addressed the new Council.

As the years passed, the Council grew to its present strength of 7000 with the membership steadily increasing. Part of the reason for that growth is that more than 400 outstanding speakers from all over the world have appeared on its podium. The photographs on the following pages only highlight the caliber of those 400 world figures who delivered major addresses before the Council. Since 1953, among those who have accepted the Council's invitation to address its members include the heads of state from Belgium, Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Denmark, Germany, India, Israel, Iran, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, the Philippines, the Soviet Union, Turkey, the United States, Vietnam, and Yugoslavia.

These Presidents, Kings, and Prime Ministers came at the onset of the nuclear era and the Cold War, and they continue to come in the hopeful flowering of detente. It is easy to see why world affairs councils constitute the most important civic organizations for on-going education in international affairs.

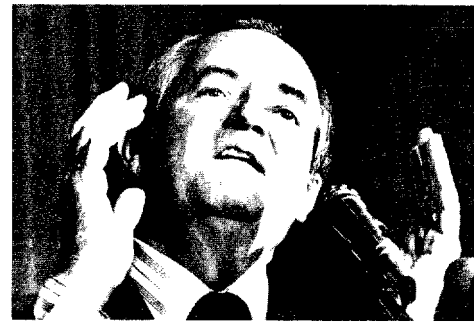
Reflections on a world of ideas



Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, 1953, 1957



Field Marshal the
Viscount Montgomery, 1954



Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, 1957



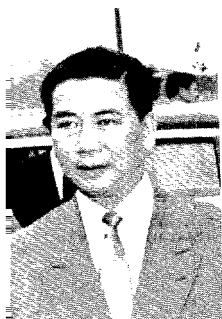
Emperor Haile Selassie, 1954



John F. Kennedy, 1956



Richard M. Nixon, 1955



President Ngo Dinh Diem, Vietnam, 1958



Walt Disney, 1958



King Hussein, Jordan, 1959



Chairman Nikita Khrushchev, U.S.S.R., 1959



King Baudouin of Belgium, 1959



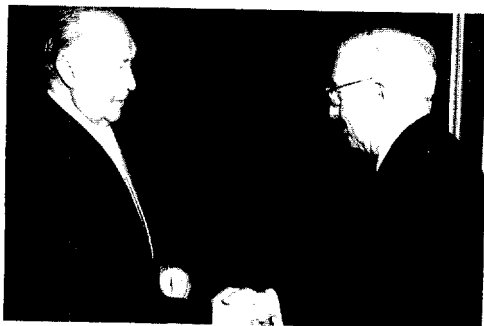
President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India, 1958, 1963



Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, 1958, 1963, 1969



Willy Brandt, 1959



Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, West Germany,
1960 (far left)



Secretary of State Cordell Hull, 1960



Lyndon B. Johnson, 1952, 1967



Senator J. William Fulbright,
1955, 1960



Prime Minister Nehru,
India, 1961



King Frederik of Denmark, 1960



Madame Ngo Dinh Nh
Vietnam, 1963



John Kenneth Galbraith, 1964 (left)



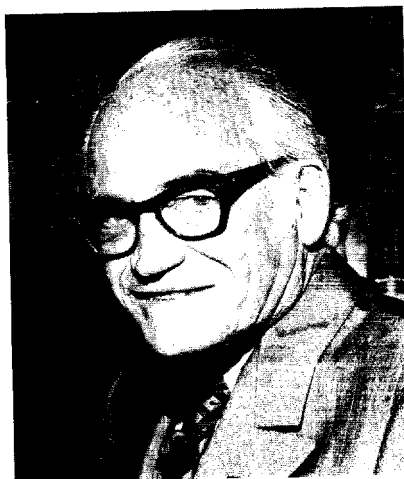
Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, 1963, 1964



Prime Minister Eisaku Sato,
Japan, 1965.



Howard K. Smith, 1964



Senator Barry Goldwater, 1964, 1973

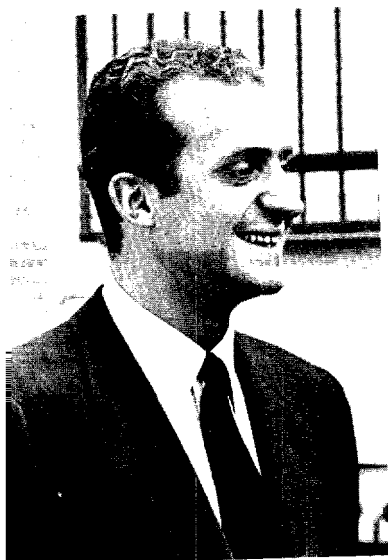


Reverend Martin Luther King, 1965 (left)

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Prince Juan Carlos de Borbon,
Spain, 1971



Governor Averell Harriman, 1960, 1969, 1971



Senator Birch Bayh, 1972



Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky,
Vietnam, 1970

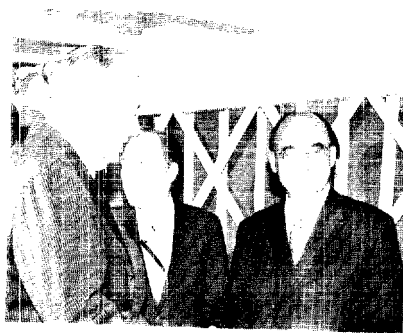


President Tito, Yugoslavia, 1971



Captain Jacques Yves Cousteau, 1971

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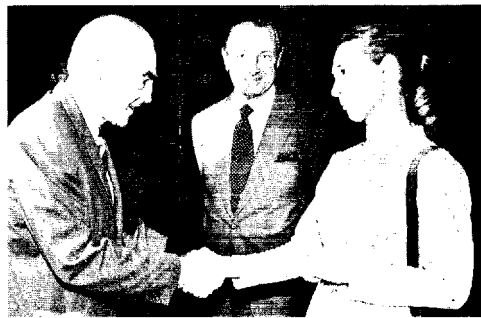
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Senator Charles Percy, 1973



Stanisław Trepczyński, President,
United Nations General Assembly, 1973



Dr. Jane Goodall, 1973



Mrs. Claire Boothe Luce, 1963, 1974



Danny Kaye, UNICEF, 1972



Deputy Secretary of State
Kenneth Rush, 1971, 1973



Prime Minister Lynden O. Pindling,
Commonwealth of the Bahamas, 1974

THE INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM. While the distinguished speakers appear on a regular basis, the International Visitor Program provides still another dimension of Council activity. Officially invited by the Department of State, these visitors are selected by their governments in cooperation with our embassies. The World Affairs Council has been designated by the State Department as the programming agency for these visitors when they come to Los Angeles. The Council receives no federal funds for this effort. International Visitor Program Director, Mrs. Maurine Ruzek, her staff and hundreds of volunteers, see to it that guests of this country are well taken care of when they tour a hospital or a university; when they visit a corporation or an amusement park, or when they sit down to dinner at home with an American family.

With the assistance of such Washington-based programming agencies as COSERV (National Council for COMMUNITY SERVICES to International Visitors), and the Governmental Affairs Institute, the Council keeps informed of the arrival of official visitors to Los Angeles. Council staffers are advised in advance of the particular interests of each visitor, and the volunteer host is selected with this in mind. The objective is to focus each guest's visit on the area of his or her interest and to facilitate it on an informal and personalized basis. The visitor is thus able, through our volunteers, to meet other Americans in one of the most exciting person-to-person programs this nation has going.

Many of these guests have returned home to rise later to new horizons in their respective countries. Eight such visitors to Los Angeles later became Prime Ministers, five became Presidents, one was elected Chancellor, and another became Governor General. Hundreds have gone on to become Cabinet Ministers. Still other thousands have returned to their homes around the world with a new and fresher understanding of the United States and its people.

More than 600 members of the World Affairs Council volunteer each year to participate in the International Visitor Program. They say that their satisfaction is gained by the kind of personalized diplomacy that is very hard to generate between nations. This personal contact with people from all over the planet makes perfect chemistry for both visitors and volunteers. It is aimed at realizing the goal stated in the letter of greeting that is presented to every official visitor upon his or her arrival in this country: *We hope that you will enjoy your visit to the United States and if you have come as a stranger, you will leave as a friend.*



Senator Charles Percy, 1973



Stanisław Trepczyński, President,
United Nations General Assembly, 1973



Dr. Jane Goodall, 1973



Mrs. Claire Boothe Luce, 1963, 1974



Sammy Kaye, UNICEF, 1972



Deputy Secretary of State
Kenneth Rush, 1971, 1973



Prime Minister Lynden O. Pindling,
Commonwealth of the Bahamas, 1974

FOR TOMORROW. Now, more than ever, intelligent decisions must be made on matters of foreign policy. In order to further this worthy goal, education of the citizen public has to continue on the highest level. Those who make and execute policy need to be cognizant of informed opinion in all parts of the country.

As we approach the final quarter of the 20th Century, the need for organizations like the Los Angeles World Affairs Council is clearly apparent: The Council can play a key role in educating citizens, in preparing them for government service, and in providing a balance of informed and thoughtful opinion.

The challenge is compelling and exciting—experts from the world over continue to come to Los Angeles to speak and be questioned about such diverse subjects as diplomacy, trade, journalism, broadcasting, economics, defense, pollution, business, philosophy, and the arts.

Through the Council's Diplomatic Tour Program, members can learn why another nation has the government it does and why it follows its own particular foreign policy. Each year Council members travel to such diverse places as the Middle East, the South Pacific, Eastern Europe, Africa, South America, and to East Asia.

The World Affairs Council of Orange County, a division of the Los Angeles group, is now 1600 strong and still growing. Orange County presents similarly interesting and provocative programs throughout the year.

For younger members, the International Forum in both Councils offers the opportunity to meet distinguished guests from overseas in an intimate setting—a private breakfast or small luncheon seminar.

All these are reasons why the Los Angeles World Affairs Council is proudly celebrating more than 20 years of service to the people of Southern California, and the United States. This is also why it is mandatory that we continue the pursuit of excellence in trying to understand this most complex world. We cannot do less than try to meet and exceed this challenge.

This has always been our goal and, hopefully, it is our achievement. It is also our commitment for the uncertain and intriguing years that lie ahead.

For the Officers and the Directors of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council

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THOMAS V. JONES, President

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tomorrow's world!

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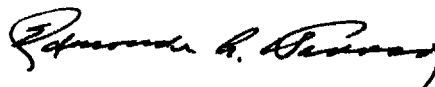
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*This is sent to you with the
compliments and good wishes
of the Los Angeles World
Affairs Council*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edmonde A. Haddad".

EDMONDE A. HADDAD, *Executive Director*